

GOMPERS PLEADS UNIONS' DEFENSE

President of A. F. of L. Attacks Stand of The Washington Herald.

MOTIVES QUESTIONED

Declares That Many Federal and District Laws Amplify "Class Legislation."

Editor Washington Herald:

The statement contained in your editorial columns of this date under the caption, "A Difference of Opinion," is exceedingly interesting. Even if it throws no more light upon the subject under discussion, it discloses the fact that your newspaper, which appears each day, requires eighteen days to elapse between the publication of my letter of February 19, published in your issue of February 21, and your statement which appeared in today's issue, March 11. To this a reference may not be inappropriate later on.

That you received resolutions of protest against your outlying in your editorial statement which appeared in the Herald, February 19, adopted by the Central Labor Union and one or two other local labor unions, is not at all strange or surprising, but rather that the protest was not more general. The men of labor in Washington and elsewhere know when they are "stabbed in the fifth rib" by any one, whether it be an open enemy or a covert friend, who makes behind a supposed expression of honest "difference of opinion." Men of labor have not been prompted to do this by any promptings of my hands to resent a wrong, palpable or hidden.

You say that within a few days after the appearance of your "editorial" and my letter, some of your merchants and editors told you some of our labor friends had threatened to boycott their particular stores if they continued to advertise in the columns of The Herald, and you ask: "What do you know about that?"

Cut Off Subscription.

Well, for one, I do not "know" anything about it, but I candidly tell you that I do not believe it. I think I have means and opportunities of knowing as well as most men the action of the local labor movement, and it has not been suggested or even hinted directly or indirectly by me to anybody that business men should be asked to withhold their advertising from The Herald, either under a "threat" of a boycott or otherwise. This is true, that a number of persons acquainted with business men and otherwise, in casually meeting me, complimented me upon my criticism of your "editorial," and one labor man volunteered the statement that he had given to the office of The Herald and canceled his subscription.

A copy of the resolutions of protest adopted and acknowledged to have been received by you was, as you know, furnished to me, and the limit of the expression of disapproval of The Herald's course was that unless fairer treatment in your columns was accorded to the organized labor movement, The Herald would prove itself unworthy of further support by the men of labor. Without here discussing the merits or demerits of any boycott, I suppose it is a fair inference that you would accord the right to the men in the labor movement to express their preference in patronizing newspapers whose policy they may deem is sufficiently, or ignorantly, or both, antagonistic to them.

You address yourself directly to me, and I will answer that it is not at all necessary that you should agree with all or any of my economic theories, nor do you run any risk of loss by dissent from them, but I repeat that men are in the habit of reading the newspapers with which they more nearly agree, and often cut loose from them, believing, justly or not, that a newspaper in question is unjust or hostile to them, their hopes and their aspirations.

And when you intimate that I am a despot, you betray an ignorance or perverseness for either of which you should be thoroughly ashamed, for all men in public or private life there is no one who stands so helpless in exerting power or self-will as do I. The labor movement of our country, the American Federation of Labor, are voluntary associations, and least of all, power is vested in me.

Approves Mexican Policy.

Nor do I think that The Herald has entered into a conspiracy, nor have I suggested it, but that it has been dominated and influenced by the will of the disreputable National Association of Manufacturers and its allies, I am fully persuaded.

I count myself in good company with a large number of American citizens, who so largely approve the course pursued by the President in his dealing with the Mexican situation, though in that particular you have no great advantage on that score, but I imagine there is no difficulty in detecting the purpose of your injecting your criticism of President Wilson in this upon the other question which you discuss. But this statement affords the opportunity to call attention to the inconsistency which you say that "under

any and all circumstances" you are "opposed to class legislation."

The Payne-Aldrich tariff bill of 1906 contains a corporation tax provision and exempted in direct terms from its payment, fraternal societies, building and loan associations, co-operative societies, labor unions, etc. Is this not class legislation?

The Underwood tariff law recently enacted contained the provision for the income tax, and specifically exempted fraternal societies, building and loan associations, co-operative societies, labor unions, etc. from its payment. That income tax law exempts from its payment all persons whose incomes are less than \$2,000 per year. Is that not class legislation?

The income tax law provides a class of different payments, graduated largely upon the specific incomes of each class. Is that not class legislation?

Is not the tariff law in its entirety a piece of class legislation?

No Difference of Opinion.

You say that you believe in labor unions. That utterance is not strong. It is often declared by those who would forsooth, would juggle with human liberty, with normal human activity, with the human soul itself, to save your flamboyant declaration of emphatic opposition to class legislation.

One could run the gamut of the Federal, State and local laws, and find no end of class legislation, and yet you, forsooth, would juggle with human liberty, with normal human activity, with the human soul itself, to save your flamboyant declaration of emphatic opposition to class legislation.

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That you worked with your hands before you took up "newspapering," is highly complimentary to you, but the question of whether its influence lasted is one of interest. It is known that the severest and most cruel task masters in industry are among those who have been taken from the fields and through favor and circumstance have been raised over the heads of their fellow workers.

If as you intimate, the subjects were a mere "difference of opinion" between me and you, I should not have been so much interested in your letter of February 19, or by this, but it is deeper. The question is fundamental and involves the principle of freedom, in the sense of whether the voluntary associations of men and women to protect their bodies and their minds, shall be placed in the same category with corporations, trusts, and monopolies which deal with and control the products of labor, the necessities of life and progress.

In the beginning of this letter I referred to the length of time elapsing between the publication of my letter of February 19 and your reply of today. Was Mr. Emery, or Mr. Davenport, of the National Association of Manufacturers, out of the city and not available either for preparation or approval?

Very truly yours,
SAMUEL GOMPERS,
President, American Federation of Labor.

"BIG STICK" IS ON HORIZON.

T. R. to Signalize Return by Launching Wilson Policies.

Paris, March 12.—Theodore Roosevelt's return to America late in April or early in May will be signalized by a slashing attack on the Wilson Mexican policy. The former President foresees a triumph for his policy in the coming year, and will find it by giving the "watchful waiting" policy a severe battering.

This disclosure was made today by Francis Butler Loomis, diplomat and friend of Roosevelt, who is nowhere. Loomis said Roosevelt has an excellent chance of being the next Presidential candidate of the Republicans.

"We hear," he said, "of Mr. Wilson's continued popularity, but it must be remembered that Roosevelt is out of the country. Opposition to the administration will be strengthened immediately upon his return, and the Wilson Mexican policy will assume a different aspect when Roosevelt begins to hammer it."

AT HERSHEL ISLAND.

Seattle, Wash., March 12.—A news dispatch from Dawson City, Yukon Territory, says E. S. Ironides, collector of customs, has received a letter written at McPherson by a friend who interviewed Vilhjalmur Stefansson, commander-in-chief of the Canadian arctic exploration expedition, who was there last month.

The letter says Stefansson has gone back to Herschel Island off the mouth of the Mackenzie River, and intends to start out immediately over the arctic.

\$60,000,000 FOR RUSSIAN ARMY.

St. Petersburg, March 12.—The extraordinary military estimates just submitted to the Russian Duma amount to over \$60,000,000, showing an increase of 30 per cent as compared with the extraordinary army estimates of 1913.

This amount is quite apart from the ordinary appropriations for the army.

SUFFRAGE PUT UP TO STATES

New Bill in Congress to Fight Against Amendment, Women Say.

SENATORS OPPOSE IT

Congressional Union Leaders Say Members of Senate Have Admitted Its Existence.

There is another suffrage measure waiting to be substituted for the one pending in Congress just as soon as the latter can be pushed out of the way, according to an emphatic statement yesterday by Miss Doris Stevens, executive secretary of the Congressional Union.

Despite the denial of members of the Congressional committee of the National Woman Suffrage Association, which said to be backing the "substitute," Miss Stevens said she had it straight from Senators themselves, who, she said, declared they had seen a tentative draft of the committee's bill and had been asked their opinion of it.

Miss Stevens says the new measure provides for a referendum to all the States where women are not already enfranchised, and that if ratified by the voters of two-thirds of the States, it is to become effective in all. This information, she said, came from Senators who had read it, and who could speak only from memory. It is said those who handled the draft would not allow it out of their hands.

Denied by Mrs. McCormick.

Miss Stevens says she and Mrs. Antoinette Funk, of the Congressional Committee, discussed the matter at the Capitol recently and that the latter did not deny there was another bill in process of preparation in her office.

When told of the persistent report about the so-called substitute bill yesterday, Mrs. Medill McCormick, chairman of the Congressional committee, said: "I have denied that once and that is enough. But I wish you would make it clear that we are not opposed to the States where women are already enfranchised, but our attitude toward women is to see progress exclusively. As a result of this attitude the male of the human homo is far ahead of the female in human development. Much confusion has followed as a result of the desire of our race for sex emancipation—for educational and political freedom. We do not desire to be like men. We merely want to meet them on an equal basis of human equality."

Women suffragists throughout the Capitol were up in arms yesterday over the report that women in the government service would not be allowed under civil service regulations to take part in the big procession here on May 3, Dismay turned to joy, though, when Civil Service Commissioner McIlhenny announced that women employees might parade with the suffragists, not as government clerks, but simply as individuals. But he said they should not affiliate with any suffrage organization or take part in propaganda work.

Mrs. Charlotte Perkins Gilman, feminist and author, spoke on suffrage to several hundred women at the Woodward & Lothrop auditorium yesterday morning. She said:

"In humanity there is no sex? We hammer into the minds of our children ideas about men which are brand new; we hammer into them ideas about women which are 40,000 years old. We have changed our ideas since the beginning of the race about our religion, our trade, our dress, but our attitude toward woman has remained the same."

"Men have taken all the human activities unto themselves as their own special prerogative and have relegated women to sex processes exclusively. As a result of this attitude the male of the human homo is far ahead of the female in human development. Much confusion has followed as a result of the desire of our race for sex emancipation—for educational and political freedom. We do not desire to be like men. We merely want to meet them on an equal basis of human equality."

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DOWN THE ALLEYS

District Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Carroll Council (E. of C.) League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Mercantile Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Patent Examiners' Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Archaeological Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Postoffice Department League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Departmental Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Reclamation Duckpin League. Results of the 1913-14 season.

Girl is Missing. Ypsilanti, Mich., March 12.—The police departments of all Michigan cities were asked today to aid in locating Blanche Campbell, a pretty seventeen-year-old normal school student, who has been missing since March 5. Search by relatives and friends since then has been futile. The girl's mother believes she has fallen into the hands of white slavers.

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FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

STATEMENT OF THE CONDITION OF THE OLD COLONY INSURANCE COMPANY, of Boston, Mass.

On the 31st day of December, 1913, as required under the District of Columbia Code, amended June 30, 1902, and August 18, 1911.

Capital stock paid up, in cash, \$100,000.00. Capital stock paid up, in cash, \$100,000.00.

Assets. Cash in office, \$7,000.00. Cash in bank, \$4,000.00. Real estate mortgages (first lien), \$10,000.00. Stocks and bonds (market value), \$1,000.00. Bills receivable, \$1,000.00. Premiums uncollected and in hands of agents, \$1,000.00. Interest due and accrued, \$1,000.00.

Liabilities. Reserve as required by law, \$10,000.00. Salaries, rents, expenses, taxes, etc., \$1,000.00. Commissions, brokerage, etc., \$1,000.00. Capital stock, \$100,000.00. All other liabilities, \$1,000.00.

Amount of risk assumed and character of business transacted during the year 1913. Losses sustained during the year 1913, \$10,000.00. Money received during the year 1913, \$10,000.00. Extended during the year 1913, \$10,000.00.

THOMAS J. FISHER & CO., INC. GENERAL AGENT, 738 15th Street Northwest.

We